

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 EURE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 OMB-01 CIEP-03

SAJ-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 /103 W

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O 091443Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6774

S E C R E T ROME 12311

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE POLITICAL CRISIS

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE IT IS WIDELY BELIEVED IN POLITICAL CIRCLES THAT RUMOR GOVERNMENT WILL LIKELY HAVE A CRISIS IN OCTOBER. THE AMBASSADOR SAW DEFENSE MINISTER ANDREOTTI ON SEPTEMBER 7 AND IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION ANDREOTTI INDICATED THAT POSSIBLY THERE MIGHT NOT REPEAT NOT BE A GOVERNMENT CRISIS THIS FALL. HE HAS RECIVED INDICATIONS THAT DC PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI MAY BE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP SOMETIME AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR AND THEREFORE IS NOT INTERESTED IN SEEING A CRISIS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. ACCORDING TO ANDREOTTI, FANFANI'S REASONING IS BASED ON A DESIRE TO GET OUT OF HIS KEY POLITICAL JOB BEOFRE THE LOCAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED IN THE SPRING OF 1975. IN THIS CONNECTION FANFANI BELIEVES HE COULD NOT STAND ANOTHER FAILURE COMING AFTER THE REFERENDUM AND SARDINIAN DEBACLE. IN ADDITION FANFANI REPORTEDLY DOES NOT BELIEVE ANOTHER GOVERNMENT CRISIS NOW WOULD BE HELPFUL TO ITALY'S IMAGE IN THE WORLD'S FINANCIAL MARKETS.

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3. BASED ON THE ABOVE ANDREOTTI CONCLUDES THAT THE

RUMOR GOVERNMENT MAY BE GIVEN A LEASE ON LIFE THROUGH THE
END OF THE YEAR IF THERE IS NO SERIOUS DECLINE IN ECONOMIC
ACTIVITY IN THE MEANTIME. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME12311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740250-0186
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740963/aaaacbk.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE POLITICAL CRISIS
TAGS: PINT, IT, (RUMOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005